

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS
FOR BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS AND COSMETICIANS

In re: John Armentano, Barber
License No. 000077

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians was presented with a Statement of Charges by the Department of Health Services, dated August 27, 1987, brought against John Armentano (Respondent). The Amended Statement of Charges alleged, in five counts, violations of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a).

A Notice of Hearing dated August 31, 1987 was issued to Mr. Armentano. Attached to the Notice was a copy of the Department's Statement of Charges. A hearing was scheduled for September 14, 1987.

Respondent was represented by Atty. Stuart M. Roth. At all hearings Respondent had the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

Prior to the initiation of the instant charges, the Respondent was given the opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of his license pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-182(c).

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent John Armentano was the holder of Connecticut barber license number 000077 from January 12, 1959 until August 31, 1987, at which time his license was suspended pending a hearing set for September 14, 1987.

2. Respondent's home address is 60 George Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

3. Respondent operates the Puritan Barber Shop, located at 657 New Park Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut.

FIRST COUNT

4. On or about July 25, 1987 Respondent employed an eleven year old boy to work for him at the barber shop. After the close of business Respondent held the boy and squeezed the boy's groin area over the boy's pants. Record, Ex. A.

5. Respondent's conduct is evidence that he is incompetent or is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and violates Connecticut General Statute § 20-238(a).

SECOND COUNT

6. Respondent employed a twelve year old boy to clean up his barber shop during August or September 1986.

7. During this time, respondent invited the twelve year old boy to his house.

8. While in his house, Respondent approached the twelve year old boy, pulled the boy's pants off, and played with his penis. Record, Ex. A.

9. Respondent's conduct is evidence that he is incompetent or is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a).

THIRD COUNT

10. Respondent befriended a boy ten years old and employed him to do cleaning and other chores at his barber shop. He would buy the boy presents and take him on trips to Ocean Beach and Mountain Park.

11. During July 1987 respondent did one or more of the following:

a) While the boy was sitting in a barber chair he put his hand down the boy's pants and touched his penis;

b) On one or more occasions, while in his house, he pulled the boy's pants down and rubbed his penis;

c) On one or more occasions he performed or attempted to perform fellatio on the boy;

d) He performed or attempted to perform sodomy on the boy.

12. Respondent's conduct is evidence that he is incompetent or is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a).

FOURTH COUNT

13. Respondent befriended a boy nine years old and employed him to do cleaning and other chores at his barber shop.

14. During June or July 1987 Respondent did one or more of the following:

a) On one or more occasions while in his house, he put his hand in the boy's pants and played with his penis;

b) On or about July 22, 1987, while in his home and while the boy appeared to be sleeping, Respondent performed or attempted to perform fellatio on the boy.

15. Respondent's conduct is evidence that he is incompetent or is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a).

FIFTH COUNT

16. Respondent is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and therefore working in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a).

DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

FIRST COUNT

The Respondent is charged with having violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-238(a), which states, in pertinent part:

(a)...The Board may suspend or revoke any license or certificate granted by it or take any of the actions set forth in Section 19a-17 if the holder of a license is incompetent,... or is suffering from physical or mental illness or emotional disorder.

The First Count charges that Respondent; a) on or about July 25, 1987 employed an eleven year old boy to work for him; b) after the close of business, he held the boy and squeezed the boy's groin area over the boy's pants. The Board finds the Respondent violated § 20-238(a) as charged with respect to all parts of the first count.

The Second Count charges the Respondent; a) during August or September 1986 employed a twelve year old boy to clean up his barber shop; b) during this time invited the twelve year old boy to his house; c) while in his house he approached the twelve year old boy, pulled the boy's pants off, and played with his penis. The Board finds the Respondent violated § 20-238(a) with respect to all parts of the Second Count.

The Third count charges the Respondent; a) befriended a boy ten years old and employed him to do cleaning and other chores at his barber shop. He would buy the boy presents and take him on trips to Ocean Beach and Mountain Park; b) during July 1987 he did one or more of the following: 1) while the boy was sitting in a barber chair he put his hand down the boy's pants and touched his penis; 2) on one or more occasions, while in his house, he pulled the boy's pants down and rubbed his penis; 3) on one or more occasions he performed or attempted to perform fellatio on the boy; 4) he performed or attempted to perform sodomy on the boy. The Board finds the Respondent violated § 20-238(a) with respect to all parts of the Third Count.

The Fourth Count charges the Respondent; a) befriended a boy nine years old and employed him to do cleaning and other chores at his barber shop; b) during June or July 1987 he did one or more of the following: 1) on one or more occasions, while in his house, he put his hand in the boy's pants and played with his penis; 2) on or about July 22, 1987, while in his home and while the boy appeared to be sleeping, he performed or attempted to perform fellatio on the boy. The Board finds the Respondent violated § 20-238(a) with respect to all parts of the Fourth Count.

The Fifth Count charges Respondent is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder and therefore is working in violation of Connecticut Statute § 20-238(a) The Board finds that Respondent violated § 20-238(a) as charged in Count Five.

Counts one through four are similar in that they allege sexual abuse of children by Respondent John Armentano. In reviewing the record the Board finds Respondent violated § 20-238(a) as charged in all Counts.

Count five charges that Respondent is suffering from a mental illness or emotional disorder. From the testimony of two psychiatrists, it is evident the Respondent is suffering from pedophilia. Pedophilia by definition is sexual interest and excitement that one may gain from getting involved with children before puberty.

Respondent has voluntarily entered a treatment program for pedophilia at the Institute of Living. His therapist has stated that in her opinion with proper supervision Respondent poses no danger to customers or clients.

The Board members who have participated in the final decision of this case have either read the record or heard the case.

ORDER

That the summary suspension of John Armentano's license ordered by the Board on August 31, 1987 be terminated and that his license be conditionally reinstated subject to the following requirements:

1. That John Armentano not be permitted to provide barber services to children under the age of fifteen;

2. That at all times he be supervised at his barber shop during the provision of barber services;

3. That the Department of Health Services approve the supervisor at the barber shop;

4. That the Department of Health Services do weekly surprise inspections at the barber shop;

5. That Mr. Armentano continue weekly therapy at the Institute of Living;

6. That monthly, the Department of Health Services receive a report from Mr. Armentano's therapist attesting to his continued attendance on a weekly basis;

7. That whenever the supervisor is absent, the shop be closed.

8. That a sign be posted at Mr. Armentano's chair, adjacent to his license, stating "Adults only - No children's haircuts."

9. That if Respondent violates any of these conditions the Board will seek revocation of his license.

10. That this order be reviewed by the Board after one year.

CONNECTICUT EXAMINING BOARD
FOR BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS AND
COSMETICIANS

6-13-88
(Date)

Ralph Cobuzzi
Ralph Cobuzzi, Chairman

Date of mailing of this decision to the Respondent
6/25/88 *dk*

Celia J. Bumstead
Celia J. Bumstead
Liaison to the Board

CONNECTICUT EXAMINING BOARD FOR BARBERS,
HAIRDRESSERS, AND COSMETICIANS

In Re: John Armentano, Barber


Petition No. 870813-25-002

PRELIMINARY ORDER

The Connecticut Examining Board for Barbers, Hairdressers, and Cosmeticians Board unanimously voted:

That the summary suspension of John Armentano's license, ordered by the Board on August 31, 1987, be terminated and that his license be conditionally reinstated subject to the following requirements:

1. That John Armentano not be permitted to provide barber services to children under the age of fifteen;
2. That at all times he be supervised at his barber shop during the provision of barber services;
3. That the Department of Health Services approve the supervisor at the barber shop;
4. That the Department of Health Services do weekly surprise inspections at the barber shop;
5. That Mr. Armentano continue weekly therapy at the Institute of Living;
6. That monthly, the Department of Health Services receive a report from Mr. Armentano's therapist attesting to his continued attendance on a weekly basis;
7. That whenever the supervisor is absent, that the shop be closed;
8. That a sign be posted at Mr. Armentano's chair, adjacent to his license, stating "Adults only - No Children's haircuts".
9. That this order be reviewed after one year by the Board.


Ralph Cobuzzi, Chairman
Connecticut Examining Board for
Barbers, Hairdressers and
Cosmeticians

9-14-87
Date

INDEPARTMENTAL
MESSAGE

STO-201 REV 7/86
(Stock No 6938-051-01)

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Obtain "STATE EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION" forms from, and send your ideas to: Employee's Suggestion Awards Program, 165 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Ct, 06106.

<i>To</i>	NAME, TITLE	David J. Pavis, Chief	DATE	25 June 1990
	AGENCY, ADDRESS	Public Health Hearing Office		
<i>From</i>	NAME, TITLE	Gary Griffin, Investigations Supervisor	TELEPHONE	
	AGENCY, ADDRESS	Public Health Hearing Office		

Subject: John Armentano, Barber

On 25 June 1990 the Conn. Board of Examiners for Barbers & Hairdressers met to discuss the previous M.O.D. issued against the respondent. The Board reviewed Lynne Hurley's memo of 22 June 1990 and the letters sent to the Department by the respondent's therapist. After a review of the material the Board modified their M.O.D. as follows:

1. Respondent is no longer required to have a supervisor in his shop.
2. Respondent is not required to undergo therapy sessions.
3. Respondent is prohibited from cutting hair of children under the age of fifteen.
4. Respondent must continue to post a sign in his shop indicating "Adults only - No children's haircuts."
5. The Department of Health Services will continue to conduct unannounced inspections twice per month.
6. The Board will review this case in one year at which time the respondent must provide the Board with a follow-up report from his therapist.

cc: Lynne Hurley